

M. C. T. U. NOTES.

Temperance puts coal on the fire, meal in the barrel, flour in the tub, money in the purse, credit in the country, contentment in the house, clothing on the children, vigor in the body, intelligence in the brain, and spirit in the whole constitution.—Benjamin Franklin.

A DRUNKARD'S SOLILOQUY.

By C. S. Garrett.

Once more I wend my weary footsteps home; Once more I pass beneath that gilded dome Whose towering spire casts a long, dark shade Across the tomb in which my mother's laid. Once more I pause within that old church door, And gaze upon the smooth old oaken floor, Where oft I heard my mother, kneeling, pray That God would guide her, lead her, in the way That would become His cause, and that alone;

That I, her son, my duty should be shown, And from the paths of sin be lifted up Ere I had learned to drain that fatal cup— That cup, the cause of My dear father's death, The demon that consumed his vital breath; That I a comfort to her might be, In health sustained, and in eternity We both should meet, and clasp each other's hands,

And there together tread God's holy lands. Alas! in yonder lonely, tufted mound, Where nought doth wake the stillness so profound, Her body, long resigned to mother earth, Lies mouldering in the dust that gave it birth; Her spirit to its Author, God, that down, Hath passed away into the great unknown; There, all seems dark to my poor weary soul, And darkness into nothingness doth roll. And yet I know that I shall soon be laid. Low in the ground beneath that church-spire's shade.

Shall I, alas! against my mother's will, Still follow on, a drunkard's grave to fill? Oh, that I ne'er had drank the poisoned draught!

My mother warned me, but I only laughed; My friends advised me, but I turned away. To follow on my destined wanton way.

O God, in pity from Thy throne of grace, Look down upon this sinful, upturned face! Remove this fiery, burning, mad desire That drags me deeper down into the mire; Raise up my spirit from the darkening gloom, And save me from the awe-inspiring doom, That hangs above me as the guillotine knife Hangs o'er its victim, ready for his life.

A FEW FACTS RELATIVE TO TOBACCO.

S. Rosalie Still.

We deem it our duty, to point out to those contemplating marriage, the curse entailed through using tobacco. We have heard many assert that the laws of heredity were "all moonshine," yet we only testify of "that we do know."

Years ago, a young man well known to us, married. Children were born until they had seven sons—not possessing them all at once, though. None of these boys lived to be over three years of age—usually, not over one—all dying with what physicians termed "brain trouble." When the fifth child died, several medical gentlemen held an autopsy, deciding: "Brain trouble resulting through heredity. Cause, excessive use of tobacco by the father." We were present when the last one died, and we shall never forget the mother's agony as she cried out, "Oh, my God! must poor little Georgie go as the rest have done?" Who can imagine the feelings of those parents as they stood by the row of little graves—seven of them—only think of it? Could the luxury of a self-indulgence appease the sorrow of so great a bereavement?

We know of another family, whose father not only uses tobacco excessively, but intoxicants also; three of his sons cannot walk, having to use wheeled chairs as their only means of locomotion. These boys appeared to be all right until the age of seven, when a slight paralysis commenced, increasing more rapidly at about thirteen, when all use of the lower limbs ceased. These cases have resulted—or have been pronounced to have resulted—through heredity; tobacco the chief cause.

Still another father whom we know, has thorough excessive use of tobacco entailed kleptomania upon his three The father is an honest, esteemed citizen, descending from a goodly line of ancestors; the mother a most estimable woman; yet the sons will take tobacco wherever they can find it; and in case they do not come across it, take something which will buy it.

In the face of these facts would it be wise for a young woman to marry a tobacco user? Is it reasonable for a young man to form a habit entailing such results? These are not isolated cases. We know of others where perhaps there were not so many cursed in one family, yet one victim, at least, was sacrificed upon the altar of self-indulgence. Tobacco using is not a safe thing to do. Many a young man has his mental faculties clouded, the "bright-boy" merging into a very common-place man, just because of it. We have had young men confess to us that tobacco had destroyed, in a great measure, their will-power.

Tobacco has been the first step in leading many a young man to a drunkard's grave. Youths appear to think tobacco renders them manly; they are very much mistaken, it renders them beastly. It would be a safe thing to do for young ladies to form anti-tobacco societies.

RECEIPT FOR TEMPERANCE.

Scottish Reformer.

It is said that a large amount of intemperance is primarily owing to the light breakfasts eaten by most people. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and the evil practice of tipping is often begun to satisfy a growling, faint sensation in the stomach in the forenoon. A hearty breakfast is the best thing to insure a happy frame of mind all day.

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